GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1898
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
EXPLOITATION OF TEA GARDEN LABOURERS
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a Memorandum from public representatives regarding the situation arising from closure of tea gardens and exploitation of tea garden labourers in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tea garden labourers are rendered jobless and surplus due to closure; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Representations have been received from Shri Mani Kumar Subba, Hon`ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha relating to serious problems being faced by the Indian/Assam Tea Industry in the context of dumping of cheap tea from countries like China, Srilanka, Vietnam and Indonesia and other countries and closure of Tea Gardens rendering the workers jobless and forwarding a memorandum of the Assam Tea Tribe Students Association raising issues like non-implementation of Plantations Labour Act, 1951 etc.

(c) & (d): According to the information made available by State Government of Assam 678 workers of Pathini Tea Estate under Karimganj District have been rendered jobless following winding up of the garden owned by Tea Trading Corporation of India. The State Govt. has taken up the matter with concerned authority and Tea Trading Corporation of India.